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THAI AMBASSADOR SAYS LIVING LAS PIAS UNLIKELY

EP19C7122851 HONG KONG APP IN ENCLISTE 121226 FRI 15 JUL 51

TEXT BANGKOK, JULY 19 (AP) -- VIETNAM'S AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND SAID FRIDAY HE HAD NO IDEA WHETHER A RECENTLY RELEASED PHOTOGRAPH PURPORTING TO SHOW THREE U.S. SERVICEMEN MISSING IN ACTION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR (PIAS) WAS AUTHENTIC.

HE REITERATED, HOWEVER, HIS GOVERNMENT'S STATED POLICY THAT VIETNAM IS HOLDING NO MISSING AMERICAN SERVICEMEN.

"I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT THERE ARE ANY AMERICANS (MISSING IN ACTION) ALIVE IN VIETNAM," AMEMBASSY REUNION SAID.

THE PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THREE MALE CAUCASIANS TURNED UP IN ONE OF THE CAMBODIAN REFUGEE CAMPS INSIDE THAILAND BEFORE BEING SENT TO THE UNITED STATES, ACCORDING TO WELL-INFORMED SOURCES HERE.

MR. TELAG EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR THE FAMILIES OF MISSING
SERVICEMEN AND SAID THAT MANY VIETNAMESE SERVICEMEN ARE ALSO STILL
MISSING.

"NEVER FORGIVE VIETNAM. WE STILL HAVE THOUSANDS OF MISSING PEOPLE. EVERY DAY THEIR FAMILIES ASK FOR ASSISTANCE IN FINDING THEM," HE SAID.

"WE UNDERSTAND THE FAIR, THE ELFEN WHICH THESE PEOPLE IN THE
CITY, (ESPECIALLY OF PEAS) HAVE TO SLEEP IN THE AGER.

THE AMBASSADOR SAID VIETNAM CONSIDERED THE PIA ISSUE A
HUMANITARIAN PROBLEM AND HIS COUNTRY HAD DONE ITS BEST TO COOPERATE
WITH THE UNITED STATES IN SOLVING IT. "IF THERE IS ANY NEW
INFORMATION, WE INVESTIGATE IT," HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT INVESTIGATIVE TEAMS HAVE TRAVELED THROUGHOUT VIETNAM BUT HAVE FAILED TO EVIDENCE OF ANY LIVING MIAs.

ACCORDING TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, 2,272 U.S. SERVICEMEN ARE OFFICIALLY MISSING, 1,656 IN VIETNAM, 522 IN LAOS, 83 IN CAMBODIA, AND SIX IN CHINESE TERRITORIAL WATERS.

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